

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 26

2 **48TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2008**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Mark Boitano

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10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 REQUESTING THE FAMILY PRESERVATION INSTITUTE AT NEW MEXICO
12 STATE UNIVERSITY TO PREPARE FAMILY IMPACT STATEMENTS ON
13 SELECTED LEGISLATION.

14
15 WHEREAS, the family is the basic social and economic unit
16 of society, serving as the primary source of values and
17 education for children and as the catalyst for the development
18 of community and national interests; and

19 WHEREAS, families generally are able to determine for
20 themselves how best to promote better family functioning; and

21 WHEREAS, quality family life enhances employee
22 productivity and reduces turnover and absenteeism in school and
23 the workplace; and

24 WHEREAS, the state has a role in supporting and
25 strengthening the healthy functioning of families by

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1 coordinating services and developing policies that support and
2 strengthen families; and

3 WHEREAS, policymakers should be sensitive to the ethnic
4 diversity of New Mexico and cognizant of differences between
5 rural and urban families and the difficulties rural families
6 have in accessing services; and

7 WHEREAS, family impact analysis has been employed since
8 the 1980s to evaluate the impact of various public policies on
9 families; and

10 WHEREAS, policymakers should consider the impact on
11 families when setting policy, taking care to be sensitive to
12 diversity in family needs and dynamics and to the desire and
13 ability of family members to care for their children, elderly
14 relatives or other family members; and

15 WHEREAS, policies should promote the opportunity for
16 family members to be together for better family functioning;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, policies should promote work and community
19 environments that ensure that a family can meet its health,
20 educational, social and economic responsibilities and reinforce
21 the family as the constant in people's lives; and

22 WHEREAS, the family preservation institute at New Mexico
23 state university is uniquely qualified to assess the impact of
24 various proposed policies on families;

25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE

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1 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that New Mexico state university's family
2 preservation institute be requested to prepare family impact
3 statements on a regular basis on legislation it believes may
4 affect, either positively or negatively, families in New Mexico
5 and that it make those family impact statements available to
6 the legislature in coordination with the legislative council
7 service; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
9 delivered to the family preservation institute at New Mexico
10 state university and the director of the legislative council
11 service.

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